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Aug 30th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

For 20 years my only choices for Internet service were AT&T and Comcast. AT&T offered only painfully slow DSL at my location and never executed on the fiber rollout that they had promised for years. So effectively my only choice for broadband was Comcast. As a Comcast customer, I had to call every 6 months when they raised my bill without notice. On each of these occasions I had to talk to multiple representatives and haggle for half an hour just to get my bill restored to the rate Comcast had previously quoted me.

The Comcast bandwidth serving my neighborhood was clearly over-subscribed and my service would sometimes "bog down," with slow transfer speeds and streaming interruptions on weekend nights and other popular times. Since Comcast is essentially the only game in (my part of) town, they had no incentive to fix this.

I recently switched to Sonic, a local provider that installed gigabit fiber in my neighborhood. I now have service which is reliably 10X faster than Comcast. My bill from Sonic, which includes a telephone connection, is \$30 less per month than what I was paying for those two services to Comcast and AT&T. Sonic's billing practices are transparent and straightforward.

My experience shows the power of competition, when a small provider that really cares about providing value and customer service is allowed to challenge the big incumbents. I support broadband competition and the local providers who supply it.

Robert Vanscoy